

Health News Release

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Skagit County: Boil-water advisory ends for Cape Horn community

OLYMPIA — Residents of the Cape Horn community in Skagit County no longer have to boil their tap water. Lab tests confirm the water again meets safe drinking water standards.

The Cape Horn Maintenance Company, which provides water service to the area, issued the advisory on June 19 after potentially harmful *E. coli* bacteria were detected in the water. The advisory affected about 700 people in the residential and recreational community on the Skagit River a few miles southwest of Concrete.

The bacteria were detected during a routine water quality monitoring test. A state Department of Health regional engineer inspected the system on Tuesday. Follow-up sampling and the inspection indicated that one of the two storage tanks was the source of the problem. That tank has been removed from service and will be thoroughly cleaned, disinfected, and tested before it is reconnected to the water system.

The system operator disinfected the system with chlorine, flushed the chlorine out of the water lines, and collected two sets of water samples to be tested for bacteria. Both sets of water samples were satisfactory.

Cape Horn customers with questions about their water quality can call 360-466-4443 or 1-800-895-8821.

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